

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JOSH ZEPNICK 9th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Dear Neighbor:

This has, by far, been the most challenging legislative session of my career. Years of weak and failed Federal financial regulations lead to the greatest economic collapse since the Great Depression and left the state with a budget seriously in need of repair. In the Majority for the first time in 14 years, Assembly Democrats cut the budget by 3.4%, unlike the 74% increase under Republicans during that time, and we did it without cutting vital services or raising taxes on 99% of Wisconsin citizens.

This is no small point; other states dealt with their Recession budget shortfalls by massively cutting school funding, health care programs, and key dollars needed to expand the economy and put folks back to work. Wisconsin smartly directed its spending to match incoming Federal dollars in an unprecedented effort. This partnership between state and local government averted layoffs, program and service cuts, and did so all without raising taxes.

It is an honor and privilege to represent the Ninth Assembly district of Milwaukee's South Side in Madison, and I look forward to visiting with many of you personally this Summer and Fall.

State Capitol P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708

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Local Hero Honored

Representative Josh Zepnick presents the Assembly Citation to Ninth District constituent Heather Cruz for her bravery and actions during a December 29, 2009 armed robbery at the McDonalds restaurant at South 26th and Morgan Avenue.

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

Always feel free to contact me if you have any concerns, questions, or comments about a state agency or legislative issue.

My door is always open and I look forward to hearing from you!



CONTACT JOSH!

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Session Highlights

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

- ✓ Approved more than \$200 million in job creation incentives
- ✓ Passed legislation to require state contracts go to American companies and 20% of state spending to state businesses
- ✓ Increased funding for technical colleges for worker training and retraining
- Passed legislation enabling the creation of 600 permanent full-time jobs manufacturing wind turbine components in Wisconsin
- Cosponsored legislation to lower Wisconsin's industry energy costs, make products to support the "green economy" and create and retain Wisconsin jobs.

EXPANDING HEALTH CARE

- ✓ Passed BadgerCare Core to provide affordable health care to more low income adults
- ✓ Secured \$300 million in Federal Medicaid dollars
- Required insurance coverage for children with autism and cochlear implants for children who are deaf
- Prohibited insurance companies for using pre-existing conditions more than one year old
- ✓ Fought for Federal approval to continue Wisconsin's SeniorCare program

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO FAIR ELECTIONS

- Established public financing system for Supreme Court elections
- Prohibited legislative fundraising during deliberation of state budget
- Supported bill to mandate full disclosure of third-party, "issue ad" funding

STRONG and SAFE COMMUNITIES

- Prohibited housing discrimination against victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault
- ✓ Introduced legislation to protect taxpayer privacy on government websites
- Removed Statute of Limitations for civil cause of action in cases of child sexual assault
- Strengthened protection for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault
- Championed Whistleblower Protection bill to protect confidential sources who disclose corporate or public wrongdoing or corruption

SUPPORTING MILWAUKEE'S 9TH DISTRICT

- Championed Focus on Energy Pilot Project that has helped some of our neighbors reduce their energy bills by \$100 a month.
- ✓ Worked with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Alderman Witkowski, and Greenfield Mayor Neitzke to get a \$1.5 million state grant for the streetscaping project to improve S. 27th Street
 - Brought legislation to officially designate
 S. 27th Street as "Historic U.S. Highway 41" to match theme of Business Improvement District

I Want to Hear Your Opinions!

I'm having a Listening Session:

Saturday, May 8th 12:00 -1:30pm, at the Zablocki Library 3501 W. Oklahoma Ave.